

Stephen H.M. Bloch (UT #7813)
Landon Newell (UT #14738)
Hanna Larsen (UT #18458)
SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS ALLIANCE
425 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111
(801) 486-3161
steve@suwa.org
landon@suwa.org
hanna@suwa.org

*Attorneys for Plaintiff
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance*

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF UTAH

**SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS
ALLIANCE,**

Plaintiff,

v.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
THE INTERIOR *et al.*,**

Defendants,

and,

**ANSCHUTZ EXPLORATION
CORPORATION and STATE OF UTAH,**

Intervenor-Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL
AUTHORITY**

Case No. 2:23-cv-00804-TC-DBP

Judge Tena Campbell
Chief Magistrate Judge Dustin B. Pead

Pursuant to DUCivR 7-1(c), Plaintiff Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (“SUWA”) respectfully submits this Notice of Supplemental Authority.

On January 30, 2025, the Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) approved Defendant-Intervenor Anschutz Exploration Company’s (“AEC”) applications for permits to drill (“APDs”) the Drumlin Well Pad Project. *See generally*, Bureau of Land Mgmt., Decision Record, DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2023-0064-EA (Jan. 2025) (“DR”) (attached as Ex. 1). The DR approved eight drilling permits, including, on leases challenged in this lawsuit. As stated in the DR, “[t]his decision is effective upon the date it is signed by the authorized officer”—that is, it is effective immediately. *Id* at *4. This is pertinent and significant information that the Court should be informed of before entering a decision on AEC’s and the State of Utah’s Motions to Dismiss (ECF Nos. 42, 45).

The now-approved Drumlin Well Pad Project is the same project SUWA highlighted in its Response to Intervenor-Defendants’ Motions to Dismiss and discussed at the hearing held on January 16, 2025. *See* Pl. Response to Intervenor-Defs. Mots. To Dismiss, at 7-8 (ECF No. 64). AEC is now authorized to begin drilling on leases at issue in this litigation. This underscores the fact that BLM¹ and AEC are treating the underlying leasing decisions as final, regardless of the still-pending supplemental leasing analysis. Moreover, BLM’s approval of the Drumlin Well Pad Project confirms SUWA’s point that this lawsuit is ripe and has real-world impacts that harm SUWA’s interests.

¹ The Federal Defendants did not join AEC and Utah’s Motions to Dismiss, did not file a brief in response to the Motions to Dismiss, and did not actively participate in the January 16, 2025 hearing.

Respectfully submitted January 30, 2025

/s/ Hanna Larsen

Hanna Larsen

Stephen H.M. Bloch

Landon Newell

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance